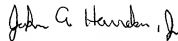contains underlines. Applicant provides herewith a paper copy of the Sequence Listing.

Applicant also provides a copy of the Sequence Listing in Computer Readable Form.

Support for the Sequence Listing can be found throughout the application as originally filed.

In addition, Applicant provides required statements associated with the submission of paper

and computer readable copies of Sequence Listings. No new matter has been added.

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the

Office Action of record. Accordingly, an early and favorable reconsideration of the

rejections and an allowance of all of pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by the

current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show

Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Harrelson, Jr.
Registration No. 42,637

Date: May 5, 2003

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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 23 and 55 as shown below.

23.   (amended) A method of killing or inhibiting growth of bacteria comprising contacting said bacteria with a peptide nucleic acid, <u>wherein said peptide nucleic acid comprises a sequence complementary to a target nucleic acid sequence of said bacteria, said target nucleic acid sequence being essential to the viability of said bacteria</u>.

55.   (amended)   A method of killing or inhibiting growth of bacteria comprising:

(a) selecting a bacteria to be killed or inhibited; and

(b) contacting said bacteria to be killed or inhibited with a peptide nucleic acid,

<u>wherein said peptide nucleic acid comprises a sequence complementary to a target nucleic acid sequence of said bacteria, said target nucleic acid sequence being essential to the viability of said bacteria.</u>

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph spanning page 18, line 33 to page 19, line 7 with the following:

The specificity of PNAs SEQ ID NOs. 6 and 7 for two β-lactamase gene mutants was determined by repeating the above procedure with the following changes. One of the β-lactamase gene mutants contained 2 non-essential base substitutions (pLAC-2) and the other of the genes contained 6 non-essential base substitutions (pLac-6) as shown below:

5'—AA AGG AAG AGU <u>AUG</u> AGU AUU CAA CAU U—3' unmodified <u>(SEQ ID NO. 28)</u>

5'—AA AGG AAG A<u>CA</u> <u>AUG</u> AGU AUU CAA CAU U—3' (pLAC-2) <u>(SEQ ID NO. 29)</u>

5'—AA AGG A<u>G</u>G <u>CC</u>U <u>AUG</u> U<u>C</u>G AUU CAA CAU U—3' (pLac-6) <u>(SEQ ID NO. 30)</u>

<center><u>Met.</u> (start codon)</center>